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THE BIBLE SPEAKS
International Uniform Sunday School Lessons
BY DR. KENNETH J. FOREMAN

Bible Material: Deuteronomy 15:7-11; 24:10-22; Isaiah 58:1-12; Matthew 25:31-46; Luke 14:12-24; Hebrews 13:1-3; 1 John 3:11-24.
Devotional Reading: Isaiah 42:1-9.

Justice for ALL

Lesson for September 21, 1958

THE LAST man on the totem pole is still a man. The man at the bottom of the ladder, the man underneath the heap, the last man, the least man; if there is no justice for him then there is no justice. For the ideal of justice, as the Bible upholds it, is that ALL men shall be treated with fairness, and more—with consideration, pity and helpfulness in the name of God. If everybody get fair treatment except the bottom layer, then when you who have been fortunate all these years slip into that bottom layer you will discover there was not so much justice as you thought. In Mark Twain's story "The Prince and the Pauper" the prince thought everything was smooth and fine; but when he changed places with the pauper and looked at things from the seamy side, he could not find justice anywhere.

Dr. Foreman

Who they are

So-called justice which only "divides the spoil with the strong" and leaves no share for the weak, is only so-called. It is precisely the persons who cannot fight for themselves, the little people without votes, the unimportant people, the forgotten and obscure, those who live and die in the shadows, it is precisely these whom a true and Christian justice will not forget. The strong will get their share and more besides if they can get by with it. It is the weak who need protection and defense.

The Bible lines them up for us, and a sorry rag-tag lot they are to look at. Here is the poor man who needs a loan and (as everybody knows) will never be able to pay it back. Here are the people so poor that they cannot buy food, but have to live on the wheat they pick up from somebody else's harvest field, the grapes they pick off some land-owner's vines. Here is the family uprooted, wanderers on the face of the earth, without home or job. Here are the nameless, faceless people totally obscure, for whom history has no name except in the lump—"the multitudes." Here are the sick people too poor to have a doctor; here is a woman some doctor has made poor. Here are the people in prison, here is a beggar shivering at the back door.

What they need

Of course, such helpless people need not have been so helpless if perhaps society had been differently organized, or if there had been better laws. Such desperate situations ought to be prevented in the first place, to be sure. For example: it has not been a lifetime since there were beggars on all roads. The tramp and the hobo were common sights. Now how long is it since you have seen a tramp? How many beggars do you know by sight? The reason why we have fewer beggars now even in a depression than we used to have even in times of prosperity is partly due to the fact that the man who lost his job in hard times used to have nothing; now he draws unemployment insurance. Prevention of poverty is much easier than curing it. Nevertheless, with all the prevention we have the wit and the courage to provide, we still have the problem cases, the hopeless and helpless ones.

Forgotten Folk

It is not only individuals who have run into personal hard times who need help, but whole groups and classes of people in trouble, need more help, more fair treatment, than they usually receive. There are, for example, the people in the mental hospitals of America, a half million of them at a recent count. Unless your state is a most unusual one, such patients in your state do not have nearly enough doctors, nurses, attendants, or attention. Then consider that for every patient who can get into a mental hospital, even the understaffed, overcrowded ones we have, there are numbers of others who cannot be admitted. What is being done for these people by your church, your community, your state? Or consider juvenile delinquents, or adult lawbreakers on parole. Does your community ignore these bottom-rung derelicts, or does it do anything to help them, or to prevent their *being* derelicts?

(Based on outlines copyrighted by the Department of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. Released by Community Press Service.)

Beckham

Beckham, Sept. 16.- Many friends and relatives visited Mrs. C. A. Moore Sunday, in honor of her 83rd birthday.

The young peoples' class of the Trinity Methodist Church enjoyed a hamburger fry at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Weakley at Spout Spring on Saturday evening.

The Willing Workers Class of Trinity Church met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. O. Martin for a picnic lunch on the lawn on Sunday.

The Woman's Society of Christian Service will meet at the home of Mrs. L. E. Martin on Thursday at 1:30.

Mrs. E. B. Martin, Mrs. R. J. Coleman, Mr. Raymond Martin, Mrs. Melvin Drinkard and Marietta, Mrs. Wesley Bethel and Linda Sue visited Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Moore Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Moore motored to Richmond on Monday to visit Mr. and Mrs. Herman Moore, Jr., Dorothy Jane and Dianne. Mrs. Moore recently underwent surgery in Richmond Memorial Hospital.

Mrs. William Moore was home with Mr. and Mrs. Howard R. Moore and family over the week-end.

Mrs. Warren Crews and children visited Mr. and Mrs. Walter Young on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. H. O. Martin, Mr. and Mrs. Eural Martin and Don, Mrs. Clyde Moore and Mr. and Mrs. Jimmie Guild visited Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Martin and Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Morris, Ronnie and Carolyn Jo on Sunday night.

Mrs. T. M. Martin, Miss Eunice Martin, Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Martin were among those present at a birthday patry given in honor of Thomas T. Martin at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Judson Morris on Saturday night.

Rev. Aaron Smith preached a fine sermon at Trinity Church on Sunday morning, with good attendance.

VERA 4-H CLUB

The Vera 4-H Club met and organized for the new school year on Sept. 8. The following officers were elected:

President, Cecil Deaner.
Vice-president, Virginia Bryant.
Secretary, Gloria Garrett.
Song leaders: Cara Phelps and Phyllis Gobble.
Reporter, Bonnie Webb.

Miss Mary Owen Armistead and Mr. Gilliam met with the club. They made important announcements about fair exhibits. Both of the leaders stressed the importance of keeping record books and getting them in on time. They encouraged us to be better 4-H'ers.

—Reporter.

NEW BOOK IN THE COUNTY LIBRARY

Admiral Hornblower in the West Indies
By C. S. Forester.

Out of the surge and roar of the sea, the sound of guns, and the heady intoxication of a fair wind ahead, comes a new saga of that Hercules of the seas, Horatio Hornblower. In C. S. Forester's masterly narrative, Hornblower sails over seas as challenging as any in his long career. The story is awash with a host of colorful, robust and daring characters, some new, some happily familiar: the ingenius and elegant Spendlove who is kidnapped by pirates and held as a hostage for Hornblower; Hornblower's beautiful and aristocratic wife, and many others.

The ship, the captain, crew of the mighty legend are endearingly and takingly and invitingly [illegible]

Big heed for food, [illegible] world problem.

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For further information contact Mr. Lee, at the farm, or

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[illegible]nd Beauty

[illegible]s to the beauty scene [illegible]ed bath oil. In any [illegible]ness, it is a blending [illegible]ed oils to soothe and [illegible] skin and give a fra[illegible] bath, so the whole [illegible]

[illegible]ms designed for luxur[illegible] bath preparation that [illegible]lightful aftermath of [illegible]plement the well groom[illegible] final touch of per[illegible] a real aid to skin care [illegible]ld winter months as [illegible] combat skin dryness.

[illegible] and the scent mingling [illegible]m of the bath are [illegible]ness. The penetration [illegible] much deeper because [illegible]th of the steam. If [illegible] permits, you should [illegible]ly lotion over all affected areas after each bath. If you will take the few minutes of extra time required for this treatment, you will find that rough, red legs, hands and arms will be a thing of the past with you this winter.

If this treatment does not help it may be necessary to apply a rich cream to all of the exposed areas of the body after your oil bath. This is only for extreme cases. There are times when nothing seems to help; then you should consult your doctor about your diet, for a diet deficiency often causes dry, cracking skin. He will probably recommend a vitamin supplement and a medicated cream.

There are some cases where bathing is prohibited and an an oil bath is recommended. Baby oil is usually an excellent choice, to be applied with sterile cotton.

Houses that are too hot or too cold will aggravate this condition. A type of heat that is too dry—a type that removes the natural moisture from the air—is an outstanding offender in this condition.

Milk Production, Cow Numbers Both Down From Preceding Year

Milk production and the dairy cow population are both down from last year in the United States, reports William S. Griffith, assistant dairy specialist at VPI.

However, the drop in production is much less than the drop in cow numbers.

Dairy cows produced 1% less milk in July than they did a year earlier, according to the United States Department of Agriculture. This was the third consecutive month in 1958 that output dropped below that of the corresponding period a year earlier. Milk production to date for 1958 is estimated at 78.4 billion pounds, down from a level of 78.6 billion pounds for the same period last year.

Across the country all milk cows were producing at an average daily rate of 20.38 pounds of milk as of August 1. This was a new high for the date, exceeding the previous record set in 1957 by 4%. Milk production in July was at a record high in Virginia, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin, but was only average or below in 22 states.

Much of the high level of milk production can be attributed to the favorable conditions of dairy pastures, Griffith says.

A drop of 3½% in cow numbers from June of last year results in 13.8 million head, or the fewest since 1930. Nationally the trend toward larger commercialized dairy farms with more milk cows per farm continued, but this gain was not enough to offset losses in milk cows caused by decreasing total number of farms and a smaller proportion of these farms keeping milk cows. The favorable prices for beef and veal over the past year, have evidently caused some farmers to cull inefficient milk producers and calves more than usual, Griffith says. The number of milk cows reported on Virginia farms as of June 1 was 379,000. This is 5,000 fewer cows than were reported for the same date last year.

Dairy farmers now sell only about 10% of their total milk in the form of separated cream. Cream sales in the 1920's and early 1930's amounted to 33% of the total milk marketed.

U. S. consumers have not only been eating more beef in recent years, but the beef they eat is a better grade. In 1956, about 58% of all beef bought was of the top 3 grades — Prime, Choice, and Good. A few years ago only half the beef sold was in these grades.

Blood Tests For Brucellosis

Last year, more than 1,000,000 U. S. herds and nearly 17,000,000 cattle were given blood tests for brucellosis. Official vaccinations stepped up by about 1,000,000 over the previous year.

Increased effort has led to a striking drop in brucellosis infection. It's down from 3.6% of all cattle tested in 1954 to 1.6% at the end of 1957.

Farm Standards Up

In 1956, 94% of American farm families had electricity; 90% had mechanical refrigerators; 84% had power washing machines; 39% had home freezers; and 74% had automobiles. Television was in 63% of the farm homes in 1957.

State awaits decision of Supreme Court on school integration speed.

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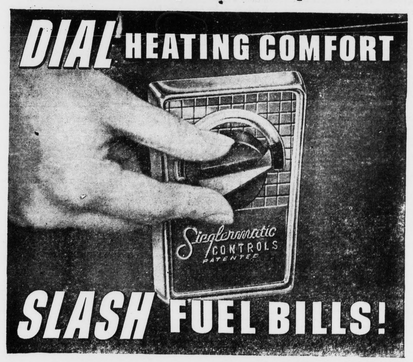

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